applications for such licences are disposed expeditiously. The Special Licensing Committee consisting of representatives of the concerned technical authorities, administrative ministries constituted for dealing with such cases meets regularly once a fortnight and all import applications received prior to the meeting are placed before the Committee. Every case is examined by the Committee on merits and decisions taken in the meeting itself. However, in specific cases where issues like security, environment, health hazards, domestic availability are involved and clearance from the concerned Ministries are required, are referred to them for obtaining their views and the cases are again placed before the Committee thereafter.

Installation of Weighbridges

4593. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of weighbridges installed by Coal India Limited at loading points and the number of weighbridges yet to be installed at different locations;

(b) the programme of installation of remaining weighbridges;

(c) whether the instructions for installation of weighbridges were given about a decade ago and if so, the reasons for not installing the same so far;

(d) whether the Union Government had given directions in 1986 that till such time the electronic weighbridges are to be installed at loading points, the weighment done on the weighbridges at power stations shall be made applicable for coal payment purposes; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the CIL for adherence of the above directions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b). At present, there are 123 weighbridges in operation at different subsidiary coal companies of Coal India Ltd. (CIL). 28 more weighbridges are to be installed. 25 of these would be installed by 31.3.1997 and the balance 3 during 1997-98.

(c) Instructions to install weighbridges were issued in 1986. Pursuant to this, CIL have taken action and 123 electronic weighbridges have been installed in phases till now. A programme of installation of 28 more weighbridges has been taken up.

(d) and (e). In the meeting held on 22.12.1986, it was further decided that:

(i) In principle, weighment at the loading points will be done on electronic weighbridges and print-out of weighment will be accepted by all concerned.

(ii) Where arrangements for weighment of coal on electronic weighbridges do not exist at the loading points and where arrangements for doing 100% weighment on mechanical or electronic weighbridges is available and such weighment of all the wagons is made at the power houses and shall be accepted as final.

(iii) In case where power houses do not have the facility for weighing 100% wagons and where arrangements for weighing 100% wagons on mechanical weighbridges is available at the loading point the weight recorded at the loading point shall be accepted as final.

(iv) Where weighing facility is not available either at the loading point or at the power house end, the existing system of accepting weighment on volumetric basis will continue to remain in force.

Purchase Policy of DGS&D after Decentralisation

4594. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any purchase policy has been framed by DGS&D after its decentralisation which may be binding on all Union Ministries/Departments while concluding any contract or arranging any supplies and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) No, Sir. The basic principles governing Government, purchases are laid down in the General Financial Rules (GFRs.) which still continue to be followed in the DGS&D.

(b) Does not arise.

Citizenship Code

4595. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to issue Citizenship code to all the citizens of India to safeguard the economy of the country from infiltration of foreign nationals and tax evasion etc; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.